

PUBLIC STATEMENT OF MARJORIE SILL

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MS. SILL: My name is Marjorie Sill. I have lived in Nevada for 40 years. I am presently the Federal Lands Coordinator for the Toiyabe Chapter of the Sierra Club. And indirectly I am representing Sierra Club members all over the country who probably don't have the opportunity to express their concerns about this Draft EIS.

1 Many of the previous speakers who I have heard have expressed concerns that we also have, concerns about the no action alternative, concerns about the transportation, the lack of specifics in the transportation, the effect that these transportation corridors could have, and I echo what they have said.

2 I would like to address the Draft EIS itself because, as I understand it, when I have analyzed a lot of EIS's, and I have never seen one that really only has one alternative which this has. The no action alternative is so flawed, both scenarios of the no action alternative, that there's a statement that the DOE itself has made that neither of the two scenarios are likely to happen in case Yucca Mountain is not selected as a site.

I see no reason -- I realize that the DOE was not required to analyze other alternatives. But I do not think they were forbidden to analyze other alternatives.

3 And with the technology that is in place now, and that is coming into place, I also thought of an analogy that Yucca Mountain was like analyzing the road system in the United States for the 20th century, and that's only for a century, not for 10,000 years, analyzing it on the effect that the horse and buggy would have on that road system. I think to ignore technology, which is evolving so fast -- I see computers in the room. I see a lot of things that have changed enormously in the last 20 years. And to ignore this, when you are talking about such an important problem as what to do with nuclear waste that will last 10,000 years, it blows my mind. I cannot understand why we are doing it in this way. Because it doesn't make sense.

We are not only talking, as one of the previous speakers said, about her children or my grandchildren or somebody's great grandchildren. We're talking about generation after generation. And this is an extremely important thing to consider.

I will submit written comments analyzing the deficiencies in the DEIS, but I do want to make this point. We need to think this thing through very carefully. It's perhaps the most important decision that we can make right now. And we better make the right one. Thank you.